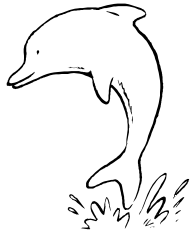
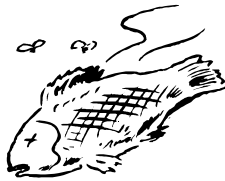


WHAT IS STORMWATER POLLUTION?

When rain flows over streets and other surfaces, it picks up pollutants and carries them into the stormwater conveyance ("storm drain") system. This system is designed to prevent flooding by transporting water away from developed areas.



However, this water is not filtered or treated, and all the contaminants it contains eventually flow to our streams, lakes, and ocean where we swim and fish.

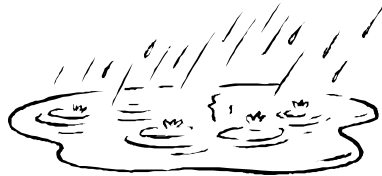


Once there, polluted runoff can harm wildlife and habitats. In some cases, it can even cause beach closures or make fish and shellfish unsafe to eat.

Horse and livestock wastes are among the many common stormwater pollutants that can degrade water quality. Other examples include paint, oil and automotive fluids, construction debris, pesticides, litter, pool chemicals, and dirty wash water.



ONLY RAIN IN THE STORM DRAIN



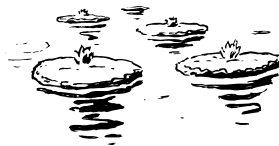
HOW DO HORSES AND LIVESTOCK POLLUTE STORMWATER?



During rainfall, uncovered manure and sediment can be washed from barns, pastures, and stables. These wastes end up flowing directly into streams, lakes, and the ocean where they can harm human health and the environment.



Stormwater runoff has been found to contain high concentrations of pathogens such as bacteria, parasites, and viruses. When they wash into our recreational waters they can make people sick with sore throats, intestinal problems, rashes, nausea, and eye and ear infections.



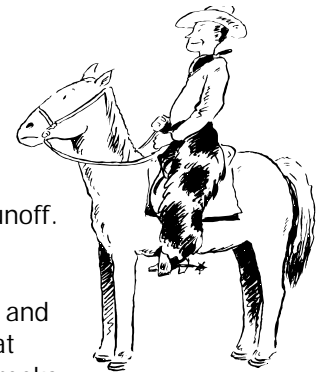
Manure also contains nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, that fertilize aquatic algae. When these nutrients are too abundant they cause algae to grow very rapidly thereby depleting oxygen in the water and killing fish and plant life.



In addition to causing flooding, sediment washed from pastures and livestock facilities can also harm aquatic life by clogging the gills of fish, blocking light transmission, lowering water temperatures, and inhibiting photosynthesis.

WHAT CAN I DO?

Here are some things you can do to keep contaminants out of runoff.



1. Put barns, corrals, and fences in areas that drain away from creeks or streams.
2. Keep livestock away from wet fields when possible. During heavy rainfall consider indoor feeding to keep manure covered and away from runoff.
3. Collect soiled bedding and manure from stalls and paddocks daily, and store them in sturdy, insect-resistant, and seepage-free units (such as plastic garbage cans with lids, fly-tight wooden or concrete storage sheds, and composters).
4. Compost manure for your own use or donate composted materials to community gardens, local greenhouses, nurseries, or botanical parks. You can also transport manure to topsoil companies or composting centers.
5. When grooming animals, use less toxic alternatives such as bacterial insecticides, diatomaceous earth, insecticidal soaps, boric acid powder, horticultural oils, and pyrethrin-based insecticides.
6. If you must use pesticides always read the label and use products as directed.
7. Cover dirt areas with loose hay or plant fast-growing grasses to shield and bind the soil to prevent erosion.

REFERRAL NUMBERS



For more information on stormwater management

(888) 846-0800



For information on recycling, composting and household toxics

**(877) R-1 Earth
(877) 713-2784**



To schedule a presentation for your community group or organization

(888) 846-0800



For a daily update on beach and bay closures

(619) 338-2073



project clean water

"clean water through local commitment and action"

Call us for more information:

(888) 846-0800

or visit our website:

www.sdcdpw.org

or

www.projectcleanwater.org

*It's against the law to
pollute stormwater.*



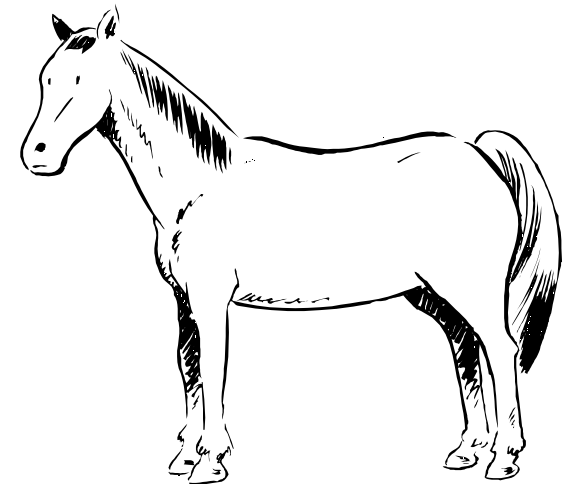
County Code §67.805 prohibits the discharge of anything but rainwater to the stormwater conveyance system or receiving waters.

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06/03

STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

HORSES & LIVESTOCK



County of San Diego
Watershed Protection Program

